4 ~~24~~. (Amended) The injectable implant for human administration, according to E2 claim ~~21~~ 1, wherein said microspheres or microparticles have a mean diameter of from 5 to less than 150 micrometers.

7 ~~27~~. (Amended) The injectable implant for human administration according to claim ~~21~~ 1, wherein said microspheres or microparticles consists of a polymer selected from the group consisting of poly-L-lactic acid, poly-D-lactic acid and mixtures thereof.

E3 8 ~~28~~. (Amended) The injectable implant for human administration, according to claim ~~21~~ 1, wherein said polymer has a molecular mass of between 70,000 and 175,000 Daltons.

9 ~~29~~. (Amended) The injectable implant for human administration, according to claim ~~21~~ 1, wherein said polymer has a molecular mass of between 120,000 and 170,000 Daltons.

14 ~~34~~. (Amended) The injectable implant for human administration, according to claim ~~21~~ 1, wherein said gel consists essentially of water and 0.1 to 7.5% by weight carboxymethylcellulose (CMC) or hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC).

E4

15 ~~35~~. (Amended) The injectable implant for human administration, according to claim ~~21~~ 1, wherein said gel consists essentially of water and 0.1 to 5.0% by weight carboxymethylcellulose (CMC) or hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC).

36. (Amended) The product obtained by freeze-drying the injectable implant for human administration according to claim 21, wherein said product is capable of reconstituting an injectable implant for human administration upon addition of water for injection.

15 E

Please admit the following new claims:

16 ~~37~~. (New) A bioresorbable injectable implant, free of materials of animal origin, for human administration comprising:

microparticles, free of materials of animal origin, comprising:

at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of lactic acid polymers, glycolic acid polymers, lactic acid-glycolic acid co-polymers, and mixtures thereof; and

6 a gel, free of materials of ~~from~~ animal origin, comprising:

water for injection,

from about 0.1 to about 7.5% (wt/wt) of an injectable gelling agent, and

a surfactant,

wherein said microparticles are suspended in said gel, and

wherein said gel is resorbable within about two months.

E5

17 ~~38~~. (New) The bioresorbable injectable implant according to claim ~~37~~ 16, wherein said gelling agent is a cellulose derivative.

18 ~~39~~. (New) The bioresorbable injectable implant according to claim ~~38~~ 17, wherein said cellulose derivative is at least one member selected from the group consisting of carboxymethylcellulose and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

19 ~~40~~. (New) The bioresorbable injectable implant according to claim ~~37~~ 16, wherein said gelling agent is synthetic hyaluronic acid.

sub 71 ~~41. (New) The bioresorbable injectable implant according to claim 37, wherein said surfactant is at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene sorbitan monooleate and pluronic acid.~~

42. (New) A freeze-dried material which when mixed with water reconstitutes a bioresorbable injectable implant, free of materials of animal origin, for human administration, said freeze-dried material comprising:

microparticles comprising:

at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of lactic acid polymers, glycolic acid polymers, lactic acid-glycolic acid co-polymers, and mixtures thereof; and

a composition that forms a gel when mixed with water comprising:

a cryoprotecting agent;

a gelling agent, and

a surfactant.

43. (New) The freeze-dried material according to claim 42 wherein said cryoprotecting agent is apyrogenic mannitol.

44. (New) A method of making a bioresorbable injectable implant free of materials of animal origin comprising the steps of

a) providing polymer microspheres or microparticles comprising:

at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of lactic acid polymers, glycolic acid polymers, lactic acid-glycolic acid co-polymers, and mixtures thereof;

b) providing a gel capable of suspending said microspheres or microparticles, wherein said gel comprises:

water for injection,

from about 0.1 to about 7.5% (wt/wt) of an injectable gelling agent; and

a surfactant,

c) dispersing said microspheres or microparticles in said gel at a proportion of from about 50 to about 300 grams of microspheres or microparticles per liter of gel;

d) packaging said dispersion into sterilizable, sealable containers; and

e) sterilizing said container

45. (New) The method of making a bioresorbable injectable implant free of materials of animal origin according to claim 44, wherein said gelling agent is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a cellulose derivative, a synthetic hyaluronic acid, a lactic acid ester, and a caproic acid ester.

46. (New) The method of making a bioresorbable injectable implant according to claim 45 wherein said cellulose derivative is at least one member selected from the group consisting of carboxymethyl cellulose and hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose.

47. (New) A syringe containing a unit dosage form of a bioresorbable injectable implant free of materials of animal origin suitable for administration to a human patient in need thereof said implant comprising:

polymer microspheres or microparticles comprising:

at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of lactic acid polymers, glycolic acid polymers, lactic acid-glycolic acid co-polymers, and mixtures thereof; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable gel capable of suspending said microspheres or microparticles, wherein said gel comprises:

water for injection,

from about 0.1 to about 7.5% (wt/wt) of an injectable gelling agent; and

a surfactant.

48. (New) A vial containing a unit dosage form of a bioresorbable injectable implant free of materials of animal origin suitable for administration to a human patient in need thereof said implant comprising:

polymer microspheres or microparticles comprising:

at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of lactic acid polymers, glycolic acid polymers, lactic acid-glycolic acid co-polymers, and mixtures thereof; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable gel capable of suspending said microspheres or microparticles, wherein said gel comprises:

water for injection,

from about 0.1 to about 7.5% (wt/wt) of an injectable gelling agent; and

a surfactant.

49. (New) A vial containing a freeze-dried material which when mixed with water reconstitutes a unit dosage of a bioresorbable injectable implant, free of materials of animal origin, suitable for administration to a human patient in need thereof said freeze-dried material comprising:

microparticles comprising:

at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of lactic acid polymers, glycolic acid polymers, lactic acid-glycolic acid co-polymers, and mixtures thereof; and

a composition that forms a gel when mixed with water comprising:

a cryoprotecting agent;

a gelling agent, and

a surfactant.

50. (New) A method of making a freeze-dried material for reconstitution as a bioresorbable injectable implant suitable for administration to a human patient in need thereof comprising the steps of:

microparticles or microspheres comprising:

at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of lactic acid polymers, glycolic acid polymers, lactic acid-glycolic acid co-polymers, and mixtures thereof;

providing a freeze-drying medium comprising:

a gelling agent free of materials of animal origin,

a cryoprotecting agent,

a surfactant, and

water for injection;

sterilizing said medium;

mixing about 100mg of said microparticles or microspheres with about 1.0 gram of said freeze-drying medium;

homogeneously dispersing said mixture; and

freeze-drying said dispersion.

51. (New) A kit comprising:

a vial containing an amount of a freeze-dried material which upon addition of water for injection is capable of reconstituting a unit dosage of a bioresorbable injectable implant suitable for administration to a human patient in need thereof; and

an ampule containing a unit doasage of said water for injection.

52. (New) A kit comprising:

a two-compartment syringe wherein